



# Recruiter

The Magazine of the Air Force Recruiting Professional



## FORCE PROTECTION

**It's everyone's business**

**Pgs. 3-12**

**March  
2003**

### January Top EA Recruiters

SSgt Steven Gifford	349/F	600%
TSgt Robert Garret	364/D	400%
SSgt Stephen Ellmore	368/G	400%
TSgt Earl Boutelle	343/H	400%
TSgt Michael Menard	345/A	400%
SSgt Carole Kurtzer	347/G	350%
SSgt Mark Pennock	331/A	333%
TSgt Robert Clemons	341	333%
SSgt Randy Jackson	361/B	300%
SSgt Charles Clardy	361/C	300%

### January Top Flight Chiefs

MSgt Angel Gonzalez	362/E	220%
TSgt David Heberle	313/G	200%
MSgt Daniel Dostart	343/E	190%
TSgt Troy Persson	313/C	186%
TSgt James Pinerio	319/A	180%
MSgt Wayne Cagle	361/B	167%
MSgt James Harshbarger	311/E	167%
MSgt Mike Wininger	311/F	167%
MSgt Colin Nichols	341/E	165%
MSgt James Henry	344/B	164%

### January Top OA Producers

Physician	Nurse	Dental	OTS
313 RCS	345 RCS	331 RCS	344 RCS
333 RCS	311 RCS	364 RCS	333 RCS
337 RCS	348 RCS	--	336 RCS

## Recruiter Spotlight



### Master Sgt. Chuck Thilges

**Job:** NCOIC Financial Management

**Station:** 311th Recruiting Squadron Headquarters, Canonsburg, Pa.

**Hometown:** Fort Dodge, Iowa

**Time in Air Force:** 18 years

**Time in AFRS:** Five years

**Prior AFSC:** Firefighter

**What inspires you?** Personal pride. I want to ensure the squadron uses all available resources to help meet the mission and goals.

**What are your personal and career goals?** I want to earn a bachelor's degree in accounting.

**What hints can you give to others?** Don't be the excuse for recruiters not making goal.

**What's the best advice you ever received?** My father told me to never tell a lie and own up to the truth.

**What is your personal motto?** Spend government funds as if it were your own money.

# Recruiter

The Magazine of the Air Force Recruiting Professional

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### Chief, Public Affairs

Maj. Terry Bowman

### Superintendent, Public Affairs

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## cover photo



This issue covers the basics of force protection. Whether traveling or in the office, security needs to be a predominant factor in your day-to-day actions. With world events as they are, our security measures may need to be increased so that everyone in Air Force Recruiting Service is prepared for anything.

Photo and graphic illustration by Senior Airman Marti Ribeiro



# FORCE PROTECTION

## *is everyone's responsibility*

**By Col. Bob East**  
**Air Force Recruiting Service**

If your duty location is on a military installation, the security checks required to enter the base and the force protection levels listed on the base marquee are daily reminders of the vigilance required for personnel and property security. Of course, you won't have the same reminders if your duty location is in downtown Miami or Chicago. However, the need for vigilance is just as great and, in some cases, even greater if you are going to protect yourself and your office from the types of terrorism and random violence making today's headlines.

Although such acts are not likely to be aimed at you as an individual, it's still very possible that as an Air Force member you can easily become a target of anti-American or anti-war sentiment.

Just as the World Trade Center was seen as a symbol of America's economic system, Air Force recruiters are a symbol of America's Air Force and the U.S. Armed Forces.

This is especially true in areas where the only tangible military presence is the local recruiting office or MEPS.

Many organizations and individuals hoping to make a political statement may consider Air Force Recruiting offices an effective backdrop for their message. In recent months, we've seen an increase in

protest marches and other types of peaceful demonstrators using recruiting offices as their rallying point. As you'll read in this issue, one recruiter even had demonstrators block the exit and try to take over his office.

Up to this point, there hasn't been any physical violence directed against AFRS members, but there's always the possibility.

This doesn't mean we should close the blinds, bolt the doors and hide under our desks. But it also doesn't mean business as usual. We must all adopt the mindset that force protection is one of our best defenses against becoming victims of terrorism or violence.

However, force protection only works if everyone in the organization makes it their personal responsibility and takes the required precautions. If you don't have an active force protection program, now is the time to start one. If there are gaps in your program, now is the time to close them.

Use the force protection information in this issue of *Recruiter* and in the AFRS Force Protection Guide as a gauge against which to measure your individual programs. A good force protection program will take time and effort on your part, but it's time well spent.

Your preparations, vigilance and extra effort will go a long way toward ensuring the safety and security of our most valuable resource – our people.

# FORCE PROTECTION

## Awareness, vigilance key to office security

By Senior Airman Marti Ribeiro  
Air Force Recruiting Service

**Three applicants walk into your office. They patiently wait while you finish talking with another prospect. When you stand to greet them, they throw the literature rack in front of the door and sit in front of it. They tell you they're holding a peaceful protest against the war in Iraq. They've targeted you as their link to the Armed Forces and are using your office to make a political statement. What do you do?**

This was the real-world scenario last January in Tech. Sgt. Jeff Peterson's enlisted accessions office in Buffalo, N.Y., 313<sup>th</sup> Recruiting Squadron.

Approximately 50 more demonstrators and local media gathered outside.

Spurred by world events, scenes like this are starting to happen more frequently at military recruiting offices throughout the country. An active force protection program is one of the best security measures for this type of situation.

Understanding how to handle protesters and bomb threats along with daily security checks are all

part of keeping your recruiting office safe.

### Protesters

Rather than confronting the intruders himself, Sergeant Peterson did the right thing by calling civil authorities. The three protestors who took over his office were arrested and charged.

Some anti-war protests don't go as far as trying to take over a recruiter's office, most are just demonstrators voicing their opinion outside a recruiting office because of its link to the Armed Forces.

"Recruiters should avoid the protesters, don't argue or engage in conversation with them," said Jerry Thomas, chief of Media Relations, Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service. "You're not going to change their opinion and they're not going to change yours, so don't provoke them or let them provoke you."

Protests and demonstrations can attract local media. When that happens, recruiters need to contact their squadron public affairs NCO immediately. They will coordinate with Headquarters

AFRS PA for guidance based on the specific situation.

### **Bomb Threats**

Another danger for recruiters in the local community is bomb threats. In the past five years, AFRS has had 70 bomb threats against recruiting offices nationwide, with a spike occurring after Sept. 11, 2001. The majority are made by directly calling the recruiting office.

The postal system and e-mail are two more ways a threat can be communicated, but you need to be prepared for anything.

Regardless of how a bomb threat is relayed, the intention is to cause one of two outcomes, according to Master Sgt. Gerald Hires, Readiness NCOIC, Headquarters AFRS. The threat is real, and an explosive device has been placed to injure personnel or property near the device. Or, the threat is to create an atmosphere of anxiety and panic that will result in disruption of normal activities.

You can minimize the probability of either outcome by developing a bomb threat incident plan.

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## **“Recruiters should treat their offices like a mini-base.”**

*-Master Sgt. Gerald Hires,  
Readiness NCOIC Headquarters AFRS*

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According to Sergeant Hires, the plan should include Air Force Form 440, Bomb Threat Aid which helps collect the information authorities will need when the bomb threat is reported. These can be ordered from the physical products section at <http://www.e-publishing.af.mil>. Copies should be placed near all phones to help gather information useful in capturing the suspect or finding the bomb. If a bomb threat is received by phone, in writing through the mail or via e-mail, you should know exactly who to call in your area whether it's the local fire department, local police or security forces – this will depend on your location.

### **Daily inspections**

Protesters and bomb threats are not usually preventable, but maintaining awareness of your surroundings is and can help keep

your recruiting office safe.

Before entering the office first thing in the morning, do a quick exterior check for anything out of the ordinary including suspicious persons loitering near the building in the parking lots. Before entering, ensure the door is locked – so you're positive no one forced entry while you were away. When leaving at night, lock the door and make sure it is secured.

You can conduct end of the day security checks by checking all doors and windows and accounting for equipment and valuables. Ensure that doors have adequate locking devices, such as dead bolts or strong locks and make sure entrances have adequate lighting.

“Recruiters should treat their offices like a mini-base,” Sergeant Hires said. “They need to know how to secure their office and protect it.”

# Mail call

## Reduce the risk by recognizing the threat

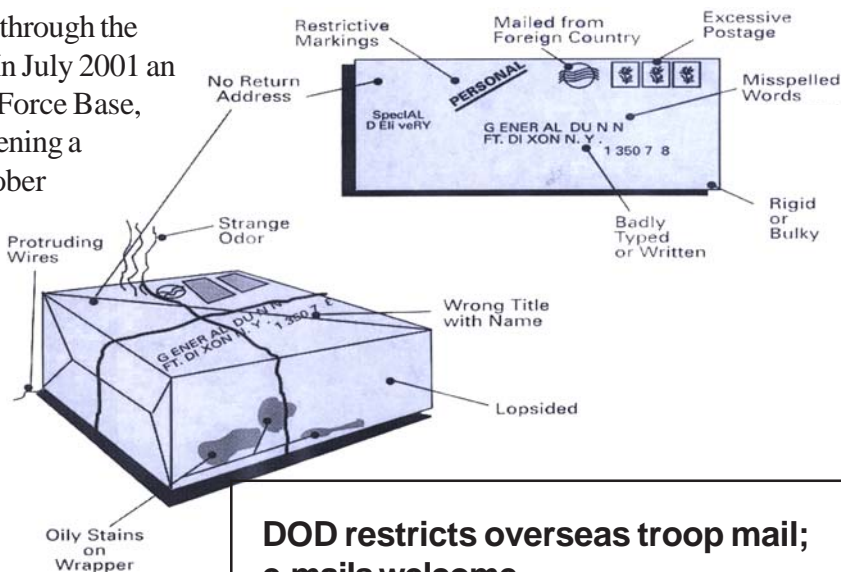
The potential for terrorist attacks through the postal system is well documented. In July 2001 an Air Force sergeant at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, was critically injured after opening a package containing a bomb. In October 2001 anthrax was mailed to organizations and individuals in the United States ultimately killing five people and injuring many others. You can reduce this type of risk in your home and office by learning to recognize the warning signs of potentially dangerous mail.

Before opening any letter or package, look for the following indicators that something may be wrong:

- No return address
- Excessive postage
- Incorrect titles
- Excessive weight
- Misspellings of common words
- Visual distractions
- Oily stains on the wrapping or package
- Foreign mail, airmail and special delivery
- Wire or strings protruding from or attached to the package/letter
- Different return address than the postmark
- Restrictive markings such as Confidential, Personal, etc.
- Excessive securing material such as masking tape, string, etc.
- Peculiar odors (almonds, shoe polish, etc.)

If you receive a letter or package fitting any of these descriptions or one that you feel is suspicious for any other reason, notify local authorities and:

- Do not open it
- Do not shake or submerge suspicious letters or packages in water



### DOD restricts overseas troop mail; e-mails welcome

Force protection concerns increase when it comes to providing a secure mail system for deployed troops. Consequently, the Defense Department has suspended the "Operation Dear Abby" and "Any Servicemember" mail programs traditionally used by many groups and individuals wanting to send a little bit of home to the troops overseas.

According to the DoD, both programs created an avenue to introduce bio, chemical, or explosive materials into the mail system from unknown sources.

If groups or individuals requesting help or points of contact for sending mail to troops overseas approach you, there are several alternatives you can offer them.

Organizations wishing to make donations to service members can send proposals to Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Attention: Contributions Committee, 4000 Defense Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301-4000.

Supportive communities can also send e-mail from the Operation Dear Abby website, <http://www.OperationDearAbby.net>. This allows people to send a message of support or holiday greeting to any servicemember in any branch of the military. To receive a message, servicemembers log onto the website and choose messages for their branch of service and home state. Since all messages are viewed on the web, the military's regular e-mail service is not affected.



**By Senior Airman  
Marti Ribeiro  
Air Force Recruiting Service**

If you think you're helping the Armed Forces by showing up at a political rally in uniform to support your opinion about the conflict in Iraq, think again.

With anti-war and pro-war rallies and protests going on all over the country, the Air Force Recruiting Service Judge Advocate staff reminds everyone that while in uniform, even minor participation in these events violates Air Force Instructions.

"Recruiters should be familiar with the Air Force Instruction that involves servicemembers at protests or rallying events – some people may not even know they are violating a law just by showing up at such a protest in uniform," said Felix Stalls, AFRS attorney.

Air Force Instruction 51-902, *Political Activities by Members of the U.S. Air Force*, prohibits any activity that associates a uniformed servicemember with a

partisan political protest, rally or demonstration. Violations are chargeable under Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice – failure to obey a lawful order or regulation.

To stay out of trouble, recruiters need to make sure they do not attend any political protests, rallies or demonstrations in uniform. Recruiters also need to remember not to portray themselves as a representative of the Air Force at this type of event, even when not in uniform.

According to Mr. Stalls, recruiters cannot legally participate in any radio, television, or other program or group discussion as an advocate for or against war or any other political issue.

"Recruiters may not realize that

setting up a booth or just standing outside a political rally could imply support for their cause," Mr. Stalls said. "While it may seem harmless, especially if the recruiter supports the cause, it's not legal for the recruiter to be there in uniform."

While there are many things recruiters are not allowed to do in conjunction with political protests and rallies, there are a few things they can do.

Recruiters are encouraged to be active in their community and attend political meetings or rallies, but only as a spectator and not in uniform.

Recruiters are also allowed to display political views on bumper stickers on their privately owned vehicles or wear buttons to support their cause when not in uniform.

**Recruiters are encouraged to be active in their community and attend political meetings or rallies, but only as a spectator and not in uniform.**

"The separation of military from the political process of our government is a principle part of our democratic system," Mr. Stalls said.

"Uniformed recruiters participating in political rallies and protests violate our American Heritage – what

our country was originally founded on."

If you need more information on what you can or cannot do, contact Mr. Stalls at DSN 487-3729 or (210) 652-3729.



# Awareness, key to arriving

**By Senior Airman  
Marti Ribeiro  
Air Force Recruiting Service**

Whether it's school visits, special events, TDYs or personal leave, most recruiters log a lot of miles on the road and in the air. In addition to everyday safety precautions, there are specific security considerations that can help you arrive safely every time you leave your home or office.

Since most recruiters use automobiles as their major mode of transportation vehicle safety awareness is vital.

"Moving outside of your home or office can make you and your vehicle more vulnerable to people who want to act out against the U.S. Air Force," said Master Sgt. Gerald Hires, Air Force Recruiting Service Readiness NCOIC. "A military uniform or vehicle can be seen as a target for those wanting to harm government personnel or property."

There are precautions that can be taken to avoid becoming a victim. One of the most fundamental precautions is to keep vehicles, both personal and government-owned, in good repair. "If possible, install locking gas caps, fire extinguishers and a first aid kit," Sergeant Hires said. Requests for these items for

government owned vehicles should be worked at squadron level.

It's also a good idea to do a visual check of your vehicle according to Sergeant Hires. "Before entering, examine the vehicle for suspicious, unexplained objects or strings inside, around or underneath," he said. If anything looks suspicious don't touch it. Call the local authorities for immediate assistance.

Once you're on the road, driving has it's own safety hazards. "Make it a practice to observe the streets before departing any building," Sergeant Hires said. "During travel always fasten seat belts, keep doors locked and windows closed. Never pick up hitchhikers and be careful about stopping to assist people in distress." According to Sergeant Hires, terrorists have frequently used such situations as a trap prior to assault.

To help with securing your vehicle, a removable locking steering device is now mandatory for AFRS GOVs in high-risk crime areas. Those in areas designated as having higher crime rates will receive the device in the next few weeks and will be required to use it whenever the vehicle is parked. To find out if your area is designated high crime



# ng safely

area contact your squadron logistics NCO.

While a standard GOV may be tough to spot, many of AFRS' special event vehicles are hard to miss.

The RAPTORs, mini jet trailers and the ROvers are all very visible vehicles when traveling which makes them good targets for those with anti-military views.

This type of high visibility can increase the risk of vandalism or other destruction. The presence of high value electronic equipment in the RAPTOR and the Cross Into the Blue Tour also make them susceptible to theft.

For safety of the recruiter and the vehicle, at least two people should accompany each special event, Sergeant Hires said.

Maj. Lea Duncan, AFRS Logistics, also suggests special events vehicles be parked on a military installation when not in use.

**When traveling for official duty, Air Education and Training Command policy requires military members to wear the blue uniform as a way to generate interest in the Air Force. The exception is that travelers will not wear the uniform if the force protection level increases to Charlie or higher.**

## **-AETC policy**

Don't rely on the security checkpoints to catch it.

"Avoid staying for long periods near ticket counters, check-in areas, or security screening areas," he said. According to Sergeant Hires these are most

However, whether on an installation or in the community, vehicles need to be secured at all times. "The theft-deterrent system will be activated on the special events vehicles when not in use. Trailers will be left locked anytime they are parked," said Capt. Jeff Owen, chief of field marketing.

Another form of travel recruiters need to take safety precautions for is air travel. Airport

security is on the increase but that doesn't mean you need to relax in your own air travel security measures.

Sergeant Hires suggests arriving early for your flight to give plenty of time to observe your surroundings and assure your security. If you observe a suspicious passenger or piece of luggage, report it to both the airline and security.

## **Removable locking steering devices**

The use of removable locking steering devices is now mandatory for AFRS government owned vehicles in designated high-risk crime areas. Those areas having higher crime rates will receive a locking steering device in the next few weeks. Contact your squadron logistics NCO to find out whether your area has been designated as high risk.

frequently the areas where terrorist activities occur.

To prevent being held up at security screening areas, do not put scissors, box cutters, pocket knives, razor blades or sporting equipment like golf clubs or baseball bats in your carry-on luggage. These items are prohibited and can be taken from you by security officials.

When traveling for official duty, Air Education and Training Command policy requires military members to wear the blue uniform as a way to generate interest in the Air Force. The exception is that travelers will not wear the uniform if the force protection level increases to Charlie or higher. Military members traveling overseas can consult the Department of Defense Foreign Clearance Guide for uniform wear travel restrictions. This is available electronically at [www.fcg.pentagon.mil](http://www.fcg.pentagon.mil).

Air travel and ground travel require recruiters to be aware of the dangers of traveling in uniform or a GOV.

"Your vehicle and uniform are easy to recognize and most often are not protected by a base perimeter and an armed entry control point," Sergeant Hires said. "Awareness can help keep you from becoming a victim."



# Computer security, a

**By Senior Airman Marti Ribeiro  
Air Force Recruiting Service**

Leaving your computer unsecured is like leaving your car unlocked with the keys in the ignition – not a smart move.

Unsecured computers provide an open door to Air Force servers for hackers or anyone wanting to cause damage.

Physical and password security are key to preventing theft and safeguarding applicants' personal information and access to Air Force networks.

## **Physical security**

Desktop computers are easy to secure by making sure doors are locked when you're not in the office, said Master Sgt. Larry Gonzales, chief, information protection section, Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service.

Laptops on the other hand, can be a little harder to secure. Laptop computers are relatively fragile, considerably expensive and very important to our recruiting goals, said John Noss, equipment control officer, Headquarters AFRS. "But possibly more valuable than the laptop is the information it contains," he said.

"In a world where individual privacy and the security of personal data are being viewed with great scrutiny, it is essential to protect this information," Mr. Noss said.

"Your laptop may contain a great deal of personal information regarding applicants," he added. "This information must be protected."

# smart move for information protection

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Certain precautions must be taken in the office and when traveling to avoid compromising an applicant's personal information according to Mr. Noss.

"Your laptop should be secured in an inaccessible safe location when not in use," he said. Even if you're using it and you need to step away secure the laptop in a locked cabinet, safe, desk drawer or some other place that only you have access to, he said.

Traveling with a laptop creates its own security issues. When traveling by car, Mr. Noss suggests placing the laptop securely in the trunk or on the floor of your vehicle behind the driver's seat. This keeps it out of sight of passers by and keeps the invitation for theft to a minimum.

However, laptops should not be left in the trunk when staying overnight, they should be taken with you.

If you're flying don't check your laptop. Take it on the aircraft with you and keep close watch over it whenever you set it down.

## Password security

Physical security is diminished if you don't keep your computer password protected. The best way to prevent anyone from getting into your computer is by password protection, said Sergeant Gonzales.

"A screensaver alone does not provide the required protection," he said. To be in compliance with AFI 33-202, *Information Systems Management*, you should have a password-protected screensaver.

"This means when your computer is inactive for five minutes, your screensaver automatically launches and locks your system," he said. Your workgroup manager can help you set this up.

But, this should not be your primary locking mechanism he added. "You are still required to lock your system by pressing control, alt, delete and enter, anytime you walk away from your desktop computer or laptop."

Password security also means using a password that is not easily compromised. All passwords must be at least eight characters long, must contain one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter, one number and one special character. Sergeant Gonzales urges members of AFRS to also stay away from any words that can be found in a dictionary.

"Using names of family members, cars or pets can be too simple, and someone could figure it out," he added.

Password protection is important not only to protect privacy act information, but also to protect access to Air Force and AFRS servers.

"Someone could potentially hack into your system or the server and create files or delete files or strategically place a virus somewhere," he said. A virus could ruin the computer and any network that might be attached to it.

The potential for viruses, privacy act violations and theft can all be reduced with password protection and physical security according to Sergeant Gonzales.

"This is key to avoiding the dangers of hackers and theft."



# Identity thieves steal millions; don't let it happen to you



**By Senior Airman Marti Ribeiro  
Air Force Recruiting Service**

Imagine someone illegally using your Social Security number to acquire loans or open credit cards in your name. This type of identity theft costs consumers millions. If you think it won't happen to you, think again.

Identity thieves can get your personal information from the web, from a business, by stealing your mail or countless other ways.

A member of the 332<sup>nd</sup> Recruiting Squadron, Tech. Sgt. Jake Davis, and his wife learned this lesson not too long ago. They were notified that someone was using their Social Security numbers to obtain large loans, some in excess of \$100,000. "This is something we always heard about in the news and from credit agencies," Sergeant Davis said. "We had always said 'not me' or 'they just want your money' because what are the chances – well, it happened."

Although Sergeant Davis and his wife never found out how the thieves stole their information, they were able to get out of their situation without paying any of the debt the thief had accumulated. They contacted their creditors, credit bureau and the Federal Trade Commission immediately. While the process of clearing their name is still going on, contacting these agencies kept them from paying out of their pocket. If you discover you are an identity theft victim there are steps you can take to help protect your personal credit. A comprehensive explanation is provided in the FTC's publication "When Bad Things Happen to Your Good Name" available at [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft).

According to information provided by the FTC you should immediately contact the three major credit bureaus, Equifax, Experian and Trans Union if you think you are an identity theft victim. Let these agencies know the situation and request a fraud alert be placed on

your credit account.

Next contact the creditors for any accounts that have been tampered with or opened and cancel any credit cards that have been misused. "It's also a good idea to file a report with the local police. Give the police all bank or credit card statements with fraudulent charges on them. Having a police case number can help you with filing issues in the future," said Tech. Sgt. Cynthia Woodruff, paralegal with the 12<sup>th</sup> Flying Training Wing, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

The last step in getting identity theft issues resolved is contacting the Federal Trade Commission's Identity Theft Hotline. The hotline can be reached at 1-877-438-4338 or at [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft). The FTC does not have the authority to prosecute criminal cases, but the commission can help by providing information on resolving financial and other problems. The best way to not have to go through these steps is to take every precaution to prevent identity theft.

Keeping a close watch on who you give your Social Security number, credit card numbers or other personal information

to is one of the best defenses against identity theft according to information provided by the Federal Trade Commission. It's also a good idea to review your credit report at least once a year to make sure it's accurate.

Additionally it's important to not give out personal information over the phone, through the mail or over the Internet unless you've initiated contact and are familiar with the business. Be wary of promotional scams. According to the FTC, identity thieves may use phony offers to get you to give out personal information.

Even with all of these precautions identity theft still happens to thousands of Americans each year. However keeping on top of your personal and financial affairs can minimize damage by helping you recognize and report identity theft as soon as possible.

## Important contacts for reporting identity theft:

### Federal Trade Commission

#### Identity Theft Hotline

1-877-438-4338

[www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft)

#### Equifax

1-800-525-6285

[www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)

#### Experian

1-888-EXPERIAN

[www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)

#### Trans Union

1-800-680-7289

[www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)

# Family donates legendary WWII revolver

## 369th Recruiting Squadron accepts donation on Air Force's behalf

By Staff Sgt. Cortchie Welch  
369<sup>th</sup> Recruiting Squadron

A .38 Smith and Wesson service revolver used by a World War II hero to shoot down a German attack plane will soon be on display at the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

The family of retired Air Force Tech. Sgt. Paul Posti Sr., who passed away last December at age 89, donated the weapon to the museum during a tribute to the WWII hero in Santa Monica Feb. 4. His leather bomber jacket was also donated to the museum.

Maj. Yolande Wood, 369<sup>th</sup> Recruiting Squadron commander and recruiter Tech. Sgt. Richard Tubbs attended the event to accept the donation on behalf of the Air Force.

As a B-17 Flying Fortress tailgunner, Sergeant Posti shot down a German Messerschmitt ME-109 with his revolver in 1942. According to family accounts, the German aircraft was so close that Sergeant Posti could see the engines.

Officials disputed the achievement until a few days later when a soon-to-be public figure by the name of then-Capt. Clark Gable presented proof of the kill. Captain Gable, an aerial photographer with

Photo by Staff Sgt. Cortchie Welch



Tech. Sgt. Paul Posti Sr.'s .38-caliber Smith and Wesson revolver and leather bomber jacket will soon be on display at the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

the U.S. Army Air Force, took Sergeant Posti into a darkroom and ran off a strip of movie film. The captain, who operated a gun camera aboard another bomber during the mission, had filmed the German plane in its death dive.

The kill was the only feat of its kind in WWII and hasn't been repeated since, which helped the Boston native earn a Silver Star, the nation's third highest decoration for heroism.

Donating the historical items to the Air Force Museum was a long-time dream for Sergeant Posti.

"He (Posti) said on many occasions that he wanted the gun and jacket to be donated to the museum for everyone to see after he passed away, instead of being tucked away in the corner of the closet," said his wife, Irene. "In my heart, I know he's celebrating this occasion."

During the ceremony, the 369<sup>th</sup>

RCS presented a certificate of appreciation from the museum to the Posti family.

"These relics from the Posti family to the Air Force Museum mean thousands of people from around the world will get to hear how Sergeant Posti became a true American hero," Major Wood said.

Sergeant Tubbs said it's important to pay tribute to those who blazed a trail for future generations.

"Paul Posti is just one of thousands of Air Force veterans who should be remembered in a special way," he said.

"A major part of recruiting is public awareness and community involvement. I couldn't think of a greater way to be involved than with our own Air Force history. Listening to the many veterans talk about past heroes has rejuvenated my own spirit and commitment to our core values."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Dean Witt



### Ready for take off

Tech. Sgt. Jim Sampson, 368th Recruiting Squadron marketing NCO, pilots the Air Force's newest F/A-22 mini jet. Staff Sgt. Ed Rodriguez, 75th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Hill Air Force Base, Utah, doubles as a combat readiness NCO for the 368th and a faux navigator for the newest Air Force attraction. The F/A-22 features a backseat, to accommodate an extra person for distributing promotional items while the "pilot" is driving.

### W-2s on myPay

Air Force members and Department of Defense civilians can now view, save and print their W-2 wage and tax statements from myPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.

The myPay service provides a secure way for servicemembers and defense civilians to manage their pay account information 24 hours a day. Customers can make changes online that previously needed to be made by visiting the civilian or military personnel flights.

### New race, ethnic categories

Airmen are now able to claim more than one race in their official personnel files because of a change in how the Air Force records racial information. Some airmen's race designations will automatically be changed to fit the new categories as part of the data

conversion. The new choices are part of a government-wide effort to standardize race data.

The revamped choices are American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian; Black or African American; Native Hawaiian or

other Pacific Islander; and White.

The easiest way for members to view and update their racial designation is on the Virtual Military Personnel Flight by clicking "vMPF" at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>. Race choices and descriptions of the new race categories are located on the personal information page under the records review link.

### Stateside Space-A travel test

A one-year test to expand space-available travel privileges to family members traveling within the continental United States begins April 1.

As part of the test, dependents of active-duty members will soon be able to travel Space-A aboard military flights to destinations within the United States.

Additional Space-A travel and sign-up information is available through Air Mobility Command's public website at <http://public.amc.af.mil/index.html>.

Courtesy photo



### Vroooooom!

Air Force Recruiting Service unveiled the new Centennial of Flight NASCAR showcar at Jay M. Robinson High School in Concord, N.C., Jan. 21. Among the attendees were the new driver, Ricky Rudd, far left behind car, and Brig. Gen. Edward Rice Jr., in front of the car.



## February Promotions

**Colonel**

Gary Kirk 367 RCG

**Chief Master Sergeant**

Daryl Casey 341 RCS

**Senior Master Sergeant**

Steven Long 360 RCG

**Master Sergeant**

Carlton Ampley 317 RCS

Dane Thomas 317 RCS

Ryan Chamberlain 318 RCS

Jeffrey Neugebauer 318 RCS

James Pinierio 319 RCS

Anthony McCalla 333 RCS

David Kolmetzky 339 RCS

John Hancock 341 RCS

Rodney Reinier 345 RCS

Michael Grosso 367 RCS

Michael Remmert 368 RCS

Thomas Marando 369 RCS

**Technical Sergeant**

Billy Myers 311 RCS

Daniel Smith 313 RCS

Heather Lamberger 318 RCS

Shawn Beltramo 319 RCS

Charles Elder 319 RCS

Dale Roeder Jr. 319 RCS

Cherish Urbaniak 319 RCS

Travis Neitch 330 RCS

Robert Becton 331 RCS

Jason Caldwell 336 RCS

Damon Haddox 336 RCS

Jason Monday 337 RCS

James Washington 337 RCS

Daniel Capstick 339 RCS

Michael Hermann 339 RCS

Lana Angle 341 RCS

Brett Boyum 342 RCS

Christopher Owen 342 RCS

Jeffrey Peters 342 RCS

Dale Baumbach Jr. 343 RCS

Photo by Staff Sgt. Lori Mills

**STEP promotees**

Staff Sgt. Reginald Cherry, 361<sup>st</sup> Recruiting Squadron personnel NCO, was one of the five Air Force Recruiting Service members promoted under the Stripes to Exceptional Performers program. Maj. Dan Anderson, 361<sup>st</sup> RCS commander, surprised Sergeant Cherry with his new stripes Jan. 27. Other technical sergeants promoted under the STEP program include Staff Sergeants David Music, 332<sup>nd</sup> RCS, James Cansejero, 367<sup>th</sup> RCS and Theresa Beaudoin, 368<sup>th</sup> RCS. Tech. Sgt. Debra Westmoreland, 345<sup>th</sup> RCS, was STEP promoted to master sergeant.

Jeffrey Colvin 343 RCS

Teresa Gray 343 RCS

Derek Draper 344 RCS

Michael Reid 348 RCS

William Shuttleworth 348 RCS

Jerry Hancock 349 RCS

Tonya Harris 362 RCS

Tanisha Talley 362 RCS

Ronald Lovell 368 RCS

**Staff Sergeant**

Angle Sacarello 313 RCS

William Miller Jr. 314 RCS

Jeffrey Storman 333 RCS

Sean Ohlemacher 338 RCS

Jason Bernstein 339 RCS

Michael Ewing 345 RCS

Louis Armijo 369 RCS

**Air Force Recruiting Service  
forth quarter award winners****Airman:**

Senior Airman Jennifer Hartman,  
318 RCS

**NCO:**

Tech. Sgt. Anthony McClary,  
HQ AFRS

**Senior NCO:**

Master Sgt. Martin Dempsey,  
342 RCS

**Company Grade Officer:**

2nd Lt. Reginald Smith, HQ AFRS

**Civilian Category I (GS 1-6):**

Laverne Foster, 345 RCS

**Civilian Category II (GS 7-11):**

Paulette Collier, HQ AFRS

**Civilian Category III****(GS 12 and above):**

Linda Bourgault, HQ AFRS

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